

MAIL SUPPLEMENT TO THE HONGKONG FREE PRESS.

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THE ICHANG RIOT.

In another column will be found, reproduced from the Shanghai papers, a full account of the riot at Ichang and of the troubles at other places. Hankow and Nanjing are evidently seething with anti-foreign sentiment, and throughout the Yangtze Valley there is widespread dissatisfaction with the Government. It is alleged that the next demonstration is to be made at Chungking, and as the presence of the steamer *Pachra* seems to have alone saved the foreigners at Ichang from massacre there is good ground for uneasiness as to the safety of the foreigners in Sin-chuen. It is now abundantly clear, from the published narratives of eye-witnesses of the riot at Ichang, that although the incendiary attack broke out unexpectedly it had been carefully designed and thought out. There was absolutely no pretext for the outbreak and the one contrived was so transparent that it would hardly have imposed on the most ignorant and prejudiced even of Chinese. A boy was sent one day to the Roman Catholic convent, and then a little later was demanded back by his friends as stolen. He was promptly handed over to them, an ingenuously was baffled to construe this too even a colourable case of abduction. Yet the leaders of the riot endeavored to do as taking care, however, to follow it up by prompt action, for it is said that in less than half an hour after the first rush on the foreign buildings they were all in flames. As usual, the local official, proved utterly powerless to stay the progress of the riot, though the Chinese showed every disposition to prevent violence being done to persons and afforded his protection—which seems to have been of little value—to the Franciscan sisters, who were shamefully treated, and who on arrival at the river bank were actually hurled down by the soldiers they imagined were protecting them.

The most significant and at the same time most sinister feature of the proceedings at the Ichang riot undoubtedly is the open participation of the soldiers in them. Mr. Cockburn, who was well known to and popular with the natives, on going to see if he could save some of his property, pushed his way through the crowd to get at his house, but was told by the soldiers that they could not help him; "soldiers will not strike soldiers," and "these are soldiers who are destroying the foreign houses." Indeed, it is evident that the active spirits at Ichang were soldiers without their coats, and as they are Hanna men it is highly probable that they were obeying orders from some person of authority who keeps in the background. The Chinese of Ichang is a Hunan man, and though he was palpably anxious to save life he knew better than to attempt to interfere with the rioters. If he did not sympathize with their acts he at least refrained from opposition. The other officials were either helpless or indifferent, probably the latter, especially the Hsien, who was one of the most ardent opponents of the opening of the Upper Yangtze to steam navigation. Whether these Ichang officials were guilty of actual connivance with the rioters, as is broadly stated by the correspondent of one of our Shanghai contemporaries, might be difficult to prove, but there can be no question as to the inability of the Chinese Government to furnish protection to foreigners residing peacefully at the Treaty ports. They have just strongly asserted their ability to maintain order and afford efficient protection for the lives and persons of foreigners, yet here is a direct answer in the negative of the most pronounced kind. At a small town like Ichang, with a population of little over 50,000, they are unable, after repeated warnings, and although they must have known there was danger, to avert an outbreak, which, but for the timely presence in port of a small foreign steamer, would beyond doubt have ended in a savage massacre.

Now it is likely that the Ichang riot will prove the last of these outbreaks. It is openly declared among the natives that the intention of the Kolo Hui is to drive foreigners from every town and place in the Yangtze Valley, and unless the Foreign Powers take matters in their own hands there is every reason to believe the society will succeed in this object. They are a force in every province in Central China, and few of the officials dare openly oppose them. Indeed, it is more than probable that all the Hunan officials are pledged to assist them wherever possible without openly taking part in the disturbances. The Central Government are obviously afraid or unwilling to punish the real leaders of the riots or to degrade officials responsible for not suppressing them. Meanwhile to let the anti-foreign party are having the best of it. At Kichang and Hankow the foreigners are actually in a state of siege; at Nanjing all the foreigners are leaving, and missionaries at the way ports and other stations are being compelled to leave and seek some safe asylum, while the residents at Ichang have left almost in a body. It is quite impossible that matters can go on in this way long. Yet what is to be done? The Chinese offer indemnities for losses suffered and promises of safety in the future. But the indemnities do not really recompense foreigners for their losses, and foreign residents can give no credit to the pledges of protection offered; they must live—if they elect to continue residence in China—in a constant state of uneasy insecurity. Such a position of things—entailing, too, the ceaseless waterfulness of the foreign naval authorities—must soon become intolerable; in fact, it is intolerable now. If the Treaty Powers cannot all unite in one common policy, then let England, France, and Russia, whose territories are all continuous on one side or another with the Chinese frontiers, take concerted action and either compel the Chinese Government to agree to their terms

THE BLUE BOOK ON THE YAN-TZE RIVERS.

Consul GARDNER'S despatches in the blue book on the Yangtze rivers bring into prominence the excellent conduct of the Chinese officials in connection with the Wusashan affair, in which Messrs. ARREST and GARDNER were murdered. One of the four mentioned by Mr. GARDNER, after stupidly neglecting the opportunity of nipping the riot in the bud, behaved well in its subsequent stages. This man was afterwards dismissed, his low rank no doubt rendering him in the opinion of the high authorities a convenient scapegoat, while the man who ruthlessly turned the ladies and children from his door and abandoned them to the fury of the mob, the other official who refused to send men to quell the disturbance, and the Customs official who declined to assist in having the bodies of the murdered Europeans brought to the landing place, are, so far as known, still retained at their posts. These three men may be taken as typical of the Chinese mandarins, who with rare exceptions cordially sympathize with the anti-foreign movement and so long as they could do so without compromising their official responsibility, would rather foment a riot than hold it in check. It is only fear of the consequences to themselves that induces the mandarins to afford any measure of protection, and so long as this is the case the exercise of strong pressure by the Foreign Powers is essential. If this pressure is applied to the Government at Peking, it will become necessary to give it a more direct application. As Sir T. SALISBURY on behalf of the Marquis of SALISBURY, the Secretary of the Chinese Legation in London, if publication of the despatches in the blue book "outrage" became a serious and indignant "outrage" in France and England, a very interesting question might arise which might have a "battering" and even serious consequences. The outrage on Dr. GARDNER in Kichang and the riot at Ichang are calculated to create both alarm and indignation and to raise serious doubts of the ability or willingness of the Chinese Government to hold its people in check. The Ichang affair especially shows that the forces which produced the previous riots are still in existence and are likely to be another upsurge at any moment.

The Chinese Minister in London appears to have exerted all his wiles to induce a complaisant attitude on the part of the Marquis of SALISBURY. The Yamen, he said, felt that there had been no justice or equity in the measures taken, and the government had further excursions would tend to increase rather than allay popular excitement. The Marquis of SALISBURY seemed inclined at first to take the bait, and in his telegram to Sir J. WALSHAM of the 17th July said, "I feel this Yamen is now, apparently, fully alive to the gravity of the occurrences that have taken place, and I am inclined to accept their assurance in this respect as sufficient if you are satisfied that the Chinese Government are in earnest." Sir J. WALSHAM does not appear to have been satisfied, the Yamen complaining through the Minister in London that "Her Majesty's Minister had been more urgent and severe in his representations than any other foreign representative," and even the French Minister, whose "nationals were the principal sufferers." This of Sir J. WALSHAM is, as gratifying as it is surprising, and to induce him to take up such a strong position he must have been very deeply impressed with the urgency of the crisis. To say that the riots were instigated by a party inimical to the present dynasty is no answer to the demand of the Foreign Powers for protection to the lives and property of their subjects in China. If the Chinese Government cannot guarantee this protection it will become incumbent on the Foreign Powers to take such measures themselves as may be necessary to effect that end. But what is asked of China is to be well within the power of any reasonably strong Government. It is not a host of executions of men of the coolie class that is demanded but the proper punishment of the officials who refused to take such steps as were within their power to afford protection to the foreigners. As at this point there must be no statement of the demand, as Consul GARDNER says, next to the fear of a war, the only means to afford protection to foreigners is to make a performance of their duty by the officials less unpleasant than the neglect of it. This can only be done by the constant exercise of vigilance and insistence on the prompt and severe punishment of any official guilty of neglect. Mr. GARDNER'S own action in relation to the Wusashan affair was altogether admirable, and his insisting that the Viceroy should be represented at the funeral of the victims and that the Viceroy should attend in person was a lie of policy deserving of special commendation.

THE OPENING OF HUNAN.

Our Peking correspondent, writing under date of the 29th August, gave the substance of the note signed by all the Foreign Ministers and presented to the T'ungli Yamen on the 25th of that month. The note acquiesced in the indemnities for outrages on foreigners being arranged by the local authorities on the Yangtze, but required the punishment of the rioters and guarantees for the future to be settled between the foreign representatives and the T'ungli Yamen. Nothing was said, so far as was known, about the opening of Hunan. The statement was made by the T'ungli Yamen, which no doubt had appeared to it to be sufficiently good authority for it. Should the

statement turn out to be inaccurate it will be very regrettable. Hunan is the hotbed of anti-foreign feeling and the fount from which poisonous literature is distributed throughout the Empire, and it is important that at the present juncture, when the persons and property of foreigners in Central China are being assailed by ignorant mobs, the province from which the mischief chiefly emanates should be firmly dealt with and have its fangs drawn. Mr. ARREST, the Chief Agent of the National Bible Society of Scotland in China, has recently been on a trip in Hunan, and has written a short account of the province, which he describes as "beautifully diversified by mountain and plain, well watered and fertile. As a province, it is remarkably self-contained, producing an abundance of everything which the people require, and importing only luxuries. Its large exports of coal, iron, timber, rice, &c., bring in much wealth, which is greatly increased by the large number of Hunanese who, in all parts of the empire, in government service or in business, are busily occupied in accumulating riches, which they ultimately carry home. In this inviting province, easy of access, healthy, and promising, Protestant missionaries have hitherto found it impossible to obtain a footing, while the Roman Catholics have been established at one centre for three hundred years, and have in all that time done little more than simply hold their ground. The people Mr. ARREST describes as strong and well-made, with a decidedly comfortable appearance; they pay great attention to education, are easily taught, and are very industrious. A large proportion of them have travelled, and for Chinese, exceedingly well-informed; but the writer mildly adds in closing his report, they are 'somewhat turbulent.' Their turbulence was shown the other day when they fastidiously refused to allow the creation of the telegraph line the Viceroy CHANG CHUN-CHU had ordered to be conducted through the province and forcibly drove out the telegraph parties. The N. C. Daily News in a recent article on the opening of Hunan asks: 'What is the unfortunate Chinese Government to do with this province? The Foreign Ministers say that it is to be made safe for foreigners to visit; but how is the Central Government to do it?' Our contemporary pains the difficulties in the way in rather loud tones, suggesting that the attempt will lead to civil war. The Governor-General, he says, has no army force, but his best soldiers are Hunanese, who will not fight against their fellow provincials; and if it brings Li HUNG-CHANG'S Anhui men from Tientsin there will be an actual civil war. Hunan will break out into open rebellion, and it will be a matter of time before the Government will be obliged to suppress it. In reply to all this we can only say that the Government which reconquered Kashgaria and subdued the Mohammedan rebellion in Yunnan ought to be able to enforce its decrees in the province of Hunan, in the very heart of its empire; if unable to it proves unable to do so, then it is high time it made way for a stronger Government. It may be that to subdue a rebellion in Hunan would be the toughest piece of work Peking has had to undertake since the time of the T'ungli Rebellion, but the subjugation of the province would be greatly to the advantage of the dynasty, whose very existence is endangered by the semi-independent anarchy of the truculent inhabitants, who have grown impatient of Manchu rule.

RUSTOMZEE'S BANKRUPTCY.

The sentence of six months' imprisonment passed by the Chief Justice on the bankrupt Rustomzee was amply merited. Considering how the Court had dealt with the cases of WOLFORD, APPEAS, HO THIE, and WONG SIK LAM, it would have been a miscarriage of justice if Rustomzee, whose case was worse than any of those mentioned, had escaped punishment. Not only had the bankrupt been guilty of rash and hazardous speculation, but he had neglected to keep proper records of his transactions. It is impossible to believe that his failure to keep books was due merely to negligence. The bankrupt had already passed through the Court on a previous occasion, in 1876, when again, as in the subject of his speculation. Then, as in his recent speculative ventures, he proceeded on the "chance" I win tails you lose" principle, and a thoroughly refrained from keeping books by which his transactions could be clearly traced. On that occasion he received his order of discharge, but was admonished by the Court as to his failure to keep books; and as the Chief Justice pointed out on Thursday, having regard to that warning, to the fact that he was at one time a bank clerk and knew how to keep books, and the necessity of keeping them either himself or by a clerk, in omitting to keep books now, and in the manner he did his business, he might fairly be found to have wilfully and intentionally neglected to keep such books with the object of concealing the true state of his affairs. For a man who comes to grief simply through rash and hazardous speculation it may be possible to feel some degree of pity; when a man deliberately neglects to keep a record of his transactions with the object of rendering any thorough investigation of his affairs impossible the element of intentional fraud is introduced.

In the new Bankruptcy Bill, which has been under the consideration of the Law Committee of the Legislature, it is proposed that, under the Ordinance of December last, whereby any person who is bankrupt is confined to hard labour for a period not exceeding two years and as to the remainder by imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding one year. Under the present Ordinance the maximum punishment is one year's imprisonment without hard labour, and Mr. Rustomzee probably has reason to congratulate himself that his case was disposed of under the old instead of the new law. Amongst the misdemeanours created by the new Bill is the making of any false entry in any book or document relating to the bankrupt's affairs, unless the jury is satisfied that he had no intent to conceal the state of his affairs or to defeat the law, but by an oversight or by a bona fide mistake, or by any other than a wilful intention, he may be found guilty of the offence. In our local Magistrate's Ordinance it is provided that if upon the hearing of a charge the Magistrate thinks that though the charge is proved the offence was in the particular case of so trifling a nature that it is independent of any punishment, he may discharge the defendant conditionally on his giving security to appear for sentence when called upon, and in the meantime to be of good behaviour. In our local Magistrate's Ordinance it is provided that if upon the hearing of a charge the Magistrate thinks that though the charge is proved the offence was in the particular case of so trifling a nature that it is independent of any punishment, he may discharge the defendant conditionally on his giving security to appear for sentence when called upon, and in the meantime to be of good behaviour. This it is to be of good behaviour. This it is to be of good behaviour. This it is to be of good behaviour.

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THE PUNISHMENT OF PETTY CRIME AND FIRST OFFENCES.

At the meeting of the Ceylon Legislative Council on the 26th ultimo, the Governor in his opening speech of the session made certain references to matters connected with crime which may furnish useful suggestions for legislation in this Colony. Sir ARTHUR HAYLOCK has apparently no sentimental objection to flogging as a punishment for petty crime. He has, he says, been strongly impressed with the necessity of empowering Police Magistrates to inflict whipping for theft of small articles. This form of punishment is indeed prescribed in the Ceylon Penal Code, but under the procedure of the Criminal Procedure Code a Magistrate cannot inflict lashes except on offenders under sixteen years of age. Sir ARTHUR HAYLOCK has therefore caused a Bill to be drafted on the lines of the special legislation adopted in 1887 for putting down cattle stealing in the North-Western Provinces. The quickly extending cultivation of tobacco and other products, and the daily increasing prevalence of the offences which it is sought to provide against, render it necessary, he says, that more adequate protection should be afforded to planters, both natives and Europeans, than the law now gives them. He does not state whether he has secured the assent of the Secretary of State to the introduction of such a Bill, but it is unlikely that he would venture on an innovation of this kind without being sure of his ground. And if the Secretary of State is willing to sanction flogging for petty offences in Ceylon, can he hardly have any logical ground for refusing to sanction it in this Colony. It is true we have no penal process to protect in this Colony, but petty larceny is very prevalent, and quite recently a correspondent signing himself "Householder" sent us a letter complaining of the prevalence of this crime in all the fittings. If flogging would prove more deterrent to this class of crime than imprisonment we would be glad to see it introduced. The Chinese in their own country are governed by the bamboo, and rightly or wrongly are supposed to be very amenable to the personal influence of a ruler. If you do all the fittings, if flogging would prove more deterrent to this class of crime than imprisonment we would be glad to see it introduced. The Chinese in their own country are governed by the bamboo, and rightly or wrongly are supposed to be very amenable to the personal influence of a ruler. If you do all the fittings, if flogging would prove more deterrent to this class of crime than imprisonment we would be glad to see it introduced. The Chinese in their own country are governed by the bamboo, and rightly or wrongly are supposed to be very amenable to the personal influence of a ruler. 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from the ship? - I could not be quite certain, but I think it was on the 29th of July.

How long was after the captain struck him? - I think it was from eight to fourteen days.

Was that the only time you saw the captain was hurt him? - No, on another occasion the crew were hauling at the braces and the captain lifted himself up with his arms into the rigging and dropped on the man, who was in a stooping position. The whole crew saw that.

Was that before or after the other occasion? - I believe it was after.

board. He went overboard on the 28th of July. I have seen the captain jump on his back many times. I saw the first and second mates give him the ropes and and took him with their feet. I myself was sometimes kicked and ropes-ended. On the day the Swede went overboard I did not see any of the three defendants touch him, but I heard about it. I saw the Swede just before he went overboard. He was tightening the manbraces. I heard somebody cry out and one of the crew went to the second mate, and then they looked

the crew. He submitted additionally that he being absolutely no evidence against the pound officer he should be set at liberty. Ernest Grove and Gilbert Mastoun were recalled and briefly questioned by his Worship without giving any additional material evidence. Mr. Wotton then called the cabin boy, Mr. Richard Gradon said—I am cabin boy on the *Edina Goadry*. I am 18 years of age and have been at sea four years. I was in a training ship at Liverpool. I became acquainted with Fall at three weeks after leaving port. He was a

DANCE FROM PLATFORM AND SMALL SPRING
pr
(Two Prizes). First Prize presented
by J. J. Kneatch, Esq. Eight entries.
The difficulty was experienced in deciding
the event, and Lammert, Konsett, Grimbale,
and two requested to give a second
competition.

Konsett.....	1
Lammert	2

DANCE ON BACK; 1 length; (Scratch). (Two
Prizes.) First Prize presented by the Club-
house Committee.

...for your own disposal.

...FRANKS said he was not there as representative of the press, but as a member of the Hongkong Jockey Club, and he meant to affirm his rights. He wanted no help and no aid, and he expected to support him in his dealings as gentlemen to appear here in his dealings. He said the proceedings should be public.

...CHAIRMAN—You can put a motion to effect.

...FRANKS said he only made his suggestion to the discretion of the President.

sons and of the by-laws made thereunder, or
of any other rules, regulations or by-laws from
the time to time in force in this Club. Mr. Fraser
declined to join in joining this Club agreed to submit to
its discipline. No rule 40 was that any person
who has been convicted has been injured to his character,
his status, welfare, good order or credit of the
club may be expelled. The fact that he has
been convicted and imprisoned as a criminal and
is still to the present day under that

SMITH — I was convicted in August, 1881.

[illegible]

This image shows a vertical strip of a document page. On the left side, there is a dark, textured binding or edge. The main part of the strip is white, representing the page content. However, the text on the page is extremely faint and illegible. There are several dark, irregular marks or stains scattered across the white area, particularly towards the bottom. The overall appearance is that of a low-quality scan or a very faded page from an old document.

